

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SECRET
REPORT

Special Branch *4025*

Date *Sept. 24* 1932.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY
File No. *4025*

Subject (in full) Miss Valentine Chapeau, alias Sharpe, alias Shaposhnikoff-
Chapeau.

Made by D. S. Tchermshansky. Forwarded by *OBK. S.*

With reference to the letter dated September 16, 1932, from the Netherlands Consulate-General on the subject of Miss Valentine Chapeau, enquiries show that she is a Russian born in 1911 at Libau, which formerly belonged to Russia but is now part of Esthonia.

In 1920 she left Vladivostok and proceeded to Nagasaki where she entered the "Convent of Holy Infant Jesus". She studied in this institution until January 1923 when she went to Shanghai in company with her mother. Here she joined the Hanbury School for Girls which she attended until 1925 when she left owing to financial difficulties of her parents who, it is said, were unable to pay for her tuition.

From October 1925 to August 1926 she was employed as an operator with the Shanghai Telephone Co. where she was known under the name of Miss Sharpe, Rumanian. During this period she was inclined to live above her means and developed the habit of signing "chits" thereby causing considerable trouble to her mother, who at that time resided at Chungking, and to her guardian, Dr. G. Carnet.

It is reported that after the death of her mother, Raisa Fedorovna Shaposhnikoff nee Letnikoff, in 1927, Dr. G. Carnet - American of Russian Jewish extraction - a man of a doubtful reputation, became Chapeau's paramour. It is also reported that she was "kept" at various times by different men in Shanghai, and that she has been frequently seen in company of foreign naval officers.

In 1931 she was employed for some time at the "Lotus d'Or", a curio shop owned by Mr. D'Auxion de Ruffe, local French lawyer. She visited Manila on one occasion and in

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Station,

Date 19

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Subject (in full)

Made by Forwarded by

April 1932 made a pleasure trip to Japan where she met her friend, Mr. H. Pedersen, employee of the Public Health Department, S.M.C.

It is believed that her correct name is Valentine Shaposhnikoff. In 1927 she registered with the Russian Emigrants Committee, No.6-A Hongkong Road, stating that her name was Valentine Shaposhnikoff-Chapeau, that she was born on August 16, 1911, at Nice, France, and that she was a graduate of the Hanbury School. According to her, her father A.I. Chapeau, died in 1921 and her mother married one A.B. Shaposhnikoff who died later in Japan in 1925. These data contradict her own statement made to the local Japanese Consular Police when she applied for a passport vise in April 1932, and stated that her father A.I. Shaposhnikoff died in the U.S.S.R. in 1925.

To one of her friends she told that her father was a French or Greek lawyer who committed suicide several years ago in Japan.

It is believed that she adopted the name "Chapeau" because she considers it more convenient to have a French name in Shanghai.

Miss Chapeau speaks Russian, French, English and Japanese languages.

She resides in apartment 16, No.43 Peking Road, a boardinghouse owned by a certain American, named Sheek.

Aies B.

Sham 57² Van den Berg

on 28.9.32. 18/9.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

J. Icherenshanky
D. S.

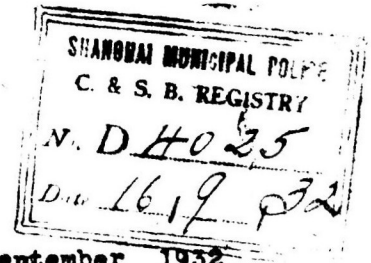


52. Please show to Netherlands Consular Authorities confidentially.

24.9.32.

CONSULAAT-GENERAAL DER NEDERLANDEN
VOOR MIDDEN-CHINA.
TEL. AD. HOLLANDIA.

No. 2576.



SHANGHAI, 16 September 1932.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that Miss
Valentine CHAPEAU, of no occupation, born in
Nice (France) 16 July 1911, living at 43 Peking
Road, Appt. 16, an ex-Russian, intends to proceed
to Netherlands India on a pleasure trip.

I would be pleased to know whether anything
is known from a political or moral point of view
against this person.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A large, stylized handwritten signature, likely belonging to the Chinese Secretary.

Chinese Secretary.

D.S. Tchenonshansky
T.P. Givens, Esquire, *DBR 16/9*
Officer in charge of Special Branch,
Shanghai Municipal Police,
SHANGHAI.

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For attention
please.
JS
16.9.32